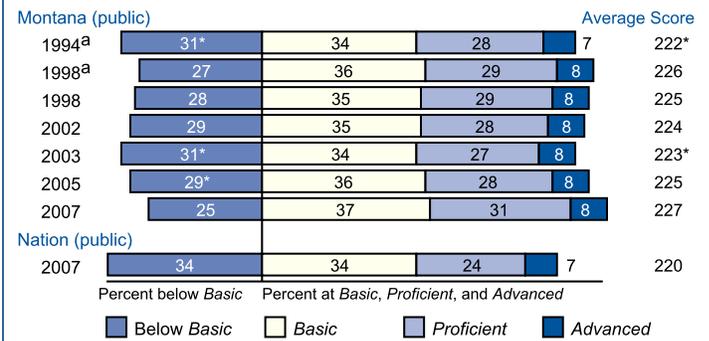


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in two content areas in grade 4: reading for literary experience and to gain information. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Montana

- In 2007, the average scale score for fourth-grade students in Montana was 227. This was not significantly different from their average score in 2005 (225) and was higher than their average score in 1994 (222).¹
- Montana's average score (227) in 2007 was higher than that of the nation's public schools (220).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions that participated in the 2007 fourth-grade assessment, students' average scale score in Montana was higher than those in 31 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 17 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 3 jurisdictions.²
- The percentage of students in Montana who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 39 percent in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (36 percent) and was not significantly different from that in 1994 (35 percent).
- The percentage of students in Montana who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 75 percent in 2007. This percentage was greater than that in 2005 (71 percent) and was greater than that in 1994 (69 percent).

Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels and Average Score



^a Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.

NOTE: The NAEP grade 4 reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: Below Basic, 207 or lower; Basic, 208–237; Proficient, 238–267; Advanced, 268 or above.

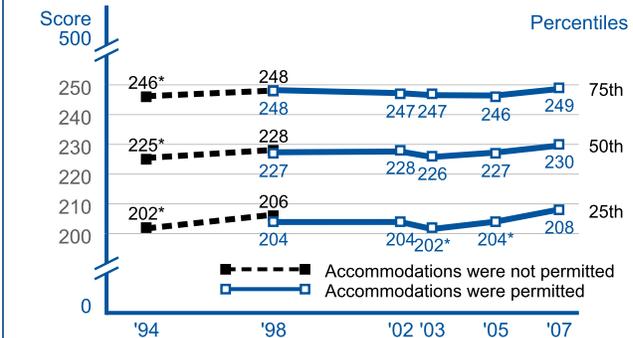
Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Montana: 2007

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above		Percent Advanced
				Basic	Proficient	
Male	51	225	26	74	36	7
Female	49	228	23	77	41	9
White	83	230	21 ↓	79 ↑	42	9
Black	1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Hispanic	3	220	31	69	30	6
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
American Indian/Alaska Native	12	204	50	50	17	3
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	37	215	37	63	26	4
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	60	234	17	83	47	10

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2007, male students in Montana had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 4 points. In 1994, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 9 points.
- Data are not reported for Black students in 2007, because reporting standards were not met. Therefore, the performance gap results are not reported.
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 10 points. Data are not reported for Hispanic students in 1994, because reporting standards were not met.
- In 2007, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, a proxy for poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 19 points. In 1998, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 21 points.
- In 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 41 points. In 1994, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 44 points.

Reading Scores at Selected Percentiles



NOTE: Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed.

Rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

* Significantly different from 2007.

↑ Significantly higher than 2005. ↓ Significantly lower than 2005.

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/narrower/wider/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Comparisons across jurisdictions and comparisons with the nation or within a jurisdiction across years may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities (SD) and English language learners (ELL). The exclusion rates for SD and ELL in Montana were 4 percent and "percentage rounds to zero" in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.

² "Jurisdictions" refers to states and the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for the National School Lunch Program, which provides free and reduced-price lunches, and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), various years, 1994–2007 Reading Assessments.